

## Lebanon seeks Saudi help

BEIRUT (R) — President Elias Hrawi has asked King Fahd of Saudi Arabia to lead an Arab financial rescue mission for Lebanon, which was hit hard by the Gulf crisis. Officials said Hrawi detailed Lebanon's economic plight in a letter to King Fahd Thursday. "Lebanon appeals to you today... to move briskly to its help and lead an Arab campaign primarily aimed at providing immediate financial aid to parry away the dangers of hunger and poverty threatening Lebanese people," the officials quoted the letter as saying. It said 40,000 Lebanese had fled Kuwait, abandoning businesses and savings and ending remittances home of an estimated \$100 million per month. Lebanese industrial and agricultural exports to Iraq and Kuwait had halted in line with U.N. sanctions. The Lebanese pound has lost more than 75 per cent of its value in the past six weeks, sending inflation soaring. Prime Minister Salim Al Hoss's office said Thursday that Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries had pledged speedy aid following an appeal by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who met Hoss in Cairo earlier this week.

Volume 15 Number 4495

## Ten people killed in Azraq accident

AMMAN (Petra) — Ten people were killed and 12 others injured when a bus carrying Sri Lankan evacuees heading from Ruweis to Azraq collided with a tanker-truck. The casualties were rushed to King Hussein Medical City by an Armed Forces helicopter.

## U.S. sends Bush tape to Baghdad

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. State Department said it was sending a diplomatic courier to Baghdad with an eight-minute videotaped message from President George Bush for broadcast to the Iraqi people. Earlier in the day, Iraq's ambassador declined to accept the tape to pass it on to Baghdad, but promised it would be broadcast immedately in prime time once the United States delivered it. Deputy U.S. Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger summoned Iraqi Ambassador Mohammad Al Mashat in the State Department to hand over the taped message. The envoy refused to take it but later told reporters outside the building it was a matter of diplomatic protocol.

## Iraq sets date for Bush 'trial'

NICOSIA (R) — Iraq said Friday its trial of U.S. President George Bush for "crimes against the human race" would open Oct. 15. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted the head of Iraq's lawyers union Hamed Saleh Al Rawi as saying 60 representatives from Arab countries would attend the four-day session of the popular court. Bush's crimes included "genocidal attempts against the human race in several parts of the world, most recently... the comprehensive blockade against Iraq," as well as desecration of Muslim shrines by sending U.S. troops to Saudi Arabia. INA quoted Rawi as saying. The decision to stage a trial, announced on Sept. 1, followed a White House statement that it was considering bringing Iraqi President Saddam Hussein before "war crimes" tribunal.

## Computer scandal widens in Israel

TEL AVIV (AP) — Police broke up a network of officials and private detectives who sold secret data from government computers to banks, lawyers and investors to further their private business deals, a police spokeswoman said Friday. Newspapers reported that information was sold on thousands of Israeli citizens, and Israel Radio said the computers used apparently included those at all major institutions — the army, police, banks, health insurance funds, the interior and housing ministries and the government-run telephone company. Police have arrested 17 officials and private detectives since Wednesday on suspicion of bribery and illegal use of classified information, said Tel Aviv police spokeswoman Dalia Gilad.

## Panel rejects Gorbachev decree

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union's constitutional watchdog has struck down a decree on rallies issued by President Mikhail Gorbachev, TASS said Friday, in the first such attempt to limit his powers. The constitutional committee ruled unconstitutional a decree issued by Gorbachev in April which took away the power to authorise rallies in Moscow from the city council and gave it to the Soviet central government.

## Swap discussed for Waite's release

BEIRUT (AP) — Britain's ambassador has held talks with Lebanon's most influential Shi'ite Muslim cleric on a plan for swapping Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite for a Shi'ite cleric held by Israel, the Al Shara'a magazine reported Friday. The reported talks Wednesday between Ambassador David Thethem and Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah focused on "details of releasing the British hostage Terry Waite in return for the release of Sheikh Abdul Karim Obeid," the weekly reported. The story was not attributed to any source.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
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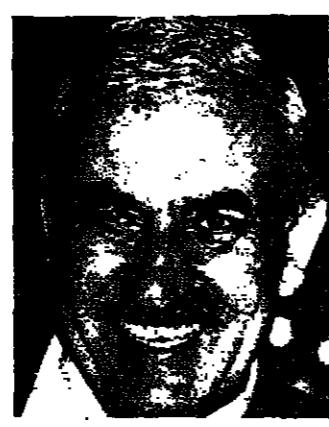
AMMAN SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1990, SAFAR 25, 1411

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

## Conference on Gulf opens today

### Arabs have the option of 'revolutionary' legitimacy — Habash

By Lamis K. Andoni  
*Jordan Times Staff Reporter*



George Habash  
solutions calling for a withdrawal of Israeli troops from Arab territories and addressing Palestinian national rights.

"We are aware that international legitimacy does not grant us our full rights... but at this stage we are ready to have our problems solved through international legitimacy until different international developments take place which might open new possibilities for us," Habash said.

Habash implied that if the Arab World decided to resort to "Arab revolutionary legitimacy" its people would strive to attain maximalist goals such as the liberation of all of Palestine and Arab unity.

"Arab revolutionary legitimacy says that the Arabs are one nation. It says that Kuwait is part of Iraq and that Arab oil is for the Arabs and not for the sheikhs and sultans... according to Arab revolutionary legitimacy all of Palestine is Arab and the

(Continued on page 4)

### 120 groups attend talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — Representatives of more than 120 popular parties and organisations in the Arab World today open a three-day conference in support of Iraq against foreign military threat by U.S. and other Western troops in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf.

Amongst the most prominent participants in the conference are the leaders of the Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP). Friday a few hours after he returned to the land of his birth for the first time in 20 years.

Hawatmeh, who heads the third largest faction in the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) after Fatah and the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), said he fully supported the Iraqi call for a balanced and peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis through a broad international peace conference which would also tackle the Palestinian problem.

In the meantime, he told a press conference, Israel is massing troops in the area near Umm Al Kais in the north. According to Hawatmeh, the build-up represents "the second phase of an American assault which will entail Israeli aggression on Jordan with the aim of moving towards Iraq (from the west) after American troops try to move into Iraq supported by air attacks from Saudi Arabia."

Hawatmeh, whose group is based in Damascus, singled out Saudi Arabia and Egypt as the main parties responsible for the splits in the Arab World over the Gulf crisis and reiterated the PLO's rejection of the Aug.

(Continued on page 4)

### Peace efforts should link Gulf crisis and Palestine problem — Hawatmeh

By Mariam M. Shahin  
*Jordan Times Staff Reporter*



10 Cairo Arab summit resolutions on the problem.

Hawatmeh refused to draw directly answering a question why the PLO was in with the position on the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait a secret.

The DFLP leader, who left Jordan in 1970, paid tribute to Jordan "from the heart of the PLO, from the heart of the intifada and from the heart of the Palestinian struggle" for its "balanced and principled approach" to the Gulf crisis and its quest for an Arab solution to the problem.

"The Gulf crisis is purely an Arab problem, and the U.S. or any foreign party has nothing to do with it," he told the press conference.

"Hands off the Gulf," he warned the U.S. The American troops are deployed in the region to "protect American oil interests, mainly cheap

(Continued on page 4)

## U.N. sets rules for food to Iraq

### UNITED NATIONS (Agencies)

— The U.N. Security Council has approved the shipment of food through the U.N. blockade of Iraq and Kuwait in humanitarian cases, provided it was distributed through the United Nations and similar bodies, but such supervision was likely to be rejected by Iraq.

The resolution was adopted at a late-night meeting with the support of 13 of the council's 15 members, including the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, China and France. Cuba and Yemen voted against it.

The first result will be the sailing of a ship anchored for the past week at the south Indian port of Cochin with supplies for some of the scores of thousands of Indians trapped in Iraq and Kuwait by Iraq's August 2 invasion (see page 2).

The council rejected a Cuban-sponsored resolution that would have opened the door to virtually unlimited food shipments to civilians in Iraq and Kuwait.

The United States, Soviet Union, Britain, France, Finland and Canada sponsored another resolution, passed 13-2, stipulating only narrow exceptions to the sanctions. Cuba and Yemen cast their opposing votes.

The Philippines also has appealed to the Security Council's sanctions committee for permission to send food to its citizens in Iraq and Kuwait.

Diplomats said the resolution had put Iraq in a dilemma because if it rejected foreign supervision it would have to use its own shrinking resources to prevent mass starvation among stranded foreigners.

Iraq Saturday will begin observing a rationing system imposed earlier this month that limits bread to three pieces per person per day, the ruling Baath Party newspaper Al Thawra reported Friday. Iraq also has imposed a rationing system for other basic food items such as rice, sugar and cooking oil, as well as soap and detergent.

The Security Council resolution stipulated that emergency food supplies must be distributed through the United Nations in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross and similar bodies.

While there was no immediate official reaction from Baghdad on the resolution, angry private comments from government officials suggested Iraq would reject any firm supervision of supplies to an affront to national sovereignty.

"These preconditions are unacceptable," one official commented. "Iraq is not a prison camp that needs foreign warders to distribute meals."

Iraq's ambassador to the U.N., Abdul Amir Al Anbari, said earlier this week international supervision of food distribution would amount to foreign control of an important aspect of economic life in Iraq.

In the debate on the U.N. resolution, the United States had insisted there must be safeguards.

Diplomats said the resolution had put Iraq in a dilemma because if it rejected foreign supervision it would have to use its own shrinking resources to prevent mass starvation among stranded foreigners.

## Bahrain revokes entry visa for Jordanians

### By P.V. Vivekanand

*Jordan Times Staff Reporter*

to-airline communications. "The only exception is diplomats and transit passengers," he said.

According to the source, Bahrain has joined other Gulf states in revoking visa-upon-entry facilities for Jordanian passport holders and banning Iraqi nationals from returning to work there, according to informed sources.

Egypt has also joined these

Gulf countries by refusing to accept laissez passer of Palestinians living in the occupied territories and outside as travel documents and insisting that travellers of Palestinian origin but holding Arab passports obtain prior permission to enter the country from the Ministry of Interior, the sources said.

The moves, which followed the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait Aug. 2, are seen as reflections of pro-Western Arab anger against the Palestinians, who, while condemning the Iraqi takeover, have indicated their support for Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Bahrain revoked the practice of issuing 72-hour and seven-day visas to Jordanian passport holders last week, said one of the sources. "It now insists that all Jordanian passport holders obtain prior visas from its embassy in Amman and elsewhere," the source said, speaking to the Jordan Times on condition of anonymity, but indicating that his information came from airline

Another source said holders of two-year Jordanian passports and laissez passer as well as Palestinians holding other Arab passports, including Kuwaiti, were being turned back from Cairo. The Egyptian authorities are refusing to honour the laissez passer and also insisting that holders of two-year Jordanian passports obtain prior permission to enter the country from the Egyptian embassies abroad, the source said. "A simple visa is not enough," he added. "The passport should also bear the reference number of permission secured from the Egyptian Ministry of Interior," he added.

No Bahrain or Egyptian officials were immediately available for comment.

## Baker says no problems in cooperation with Syria

### Combined agency dispatches

DAMASCUS — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker held talks Friday on the Gulf crisis and the Syrian foreign minister said his country would send additional forces to be deployed along with the American-led multi-national forces in the kingdom.

Baker told reporters after talks that America's differences with Syria over "terrorism" would not prevent them cooperating in the Gulf crisis.

Baker told reporters the United States intends to pull its ground forces out of Saudi Arabia when the crisis is over but the

Middle East needs a long-term "security" arrangement which should include Israel.

Baker, who has been crisscrossing the Middle East and Europe to consolidate an American-led coalition against Iraq, spoke after more than four and half hours of talks with Assad.

Baker said that he did not expect further releases of Western hostages held in Lebanon soon.

Assad "did not indicate any expectation that they would be released soon," Baker said at a news conference after the talks.

"We discussed the importance of that to the U.S., that our hostages in Lebanon be released."

(Continued on page 4)

## Iraq denies its forces broke into embassies

## U.S. navy fires at Iraqi tanker, boards it in Gulf

Combined agency dispatches

AN AMERICAN navy ship halted an Iraqi tanker Friday in the Gulf of Oman as part of the effort to enforce trading sanctions against Iraq, President George Bush said.

Ayatollah Abdolkarim Musavi Ardebi's denunciation of the American military buildup in the Gulf brought out chants of "Death to America" by worshippers gathered at Tehran University for a mass Friday prayer meeting.

"Now Muslims are not dead, they will not just stand by and watch (the Americans) come grab the region's oil, act disgracefully and laugh at everyone," Ardebi said in a sermon.

"Are Muslims going to remain silent when American soldiers consume imported alcoholic drinks and party with semi-nude dancers" near Islamic holy sites in Saudi Arabia, a senior Iranian cleric said Friday.

"An American vessel did, in accordance with the United Nations resolutions, in accordance with the sanctions, cause another Iraqi vessel to heave-to, it has been boarded," Bush told an impromptu news conference.

"I expect confidently that if it is not carrying any contraband or anything that will violate the sanctions, that it will be permitted to go on its way. But if it required a bit of a warning before the captain pulled over and permitted the boarding party to have a look."

Asked if Friday's events put the United States any closer to a war with Iraq, Bush said:

"I wouldn't put it closer to a war situation. I still hope that this matter can be peacefully resolved. And the way for that to happen is for Iraq to comply with the sanctions."

The statement followed remarks by Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei Wednesday which declared the fight against U.S. forces massing in the Gulf as jihad.

Iraq's President Saddam Hussein has denounced the American forces in almost identical terms.

But Ardebi, saying Saddam was "in a broken ship," said his appeal to Muslim sentiments was not genuine.

The Foreign Ministry said one of the four, the military attaché, was later released unharmed, but gave no

ambassadors.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted a government source as saying Iraqi troops were under strict orders not to enter diplomatic premises in Kuwait even though envoys still there had forfeited their diplomatic immunity.

Iraq ordered all embassies in Kuwait to close by Aug. 24 and move their staff to Baghdad. Some 17 of the 66 missions in Kuwait when Iraq invaded six weeks ago continue to defy the order.

The Iraqi authorities look upon this issue as a very sensitive matter because of certain considerations and not on the basis of the Vienna convention of 1961, pertaining to the inviolability of diplomatic missions," the source said.

Asked if Friday's events put the United States any closer to a war with Iraq, Bush said:

"I wouldn't put it closer to a war situation. I still hope that this matter can be peacefully resolved. And the way for that to happen is for Iraq to comply with the sanctions."

Officials in Europe said Friday that Iraqi troops forced their way into the diplomatic compounds of France, Canada, and Belgium in Kuwait.

The shooting incident was the third in the United States' effort to put a stranglehold on Iraqi shipping.

The first shots were fired on Aug. 18, when U.S. navy ships attempted to halt two Iraqi tankers from departing the Gulf region.

Neither of those ships was boarded.

Iraq meanwhile denied that its forces in Kuwait broke into the residences of the Dutch and French

(Continued on page 4)

## Intifada down not out

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R)

— Palestinians waging the revolt against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip say their uprising is at a low ebb but far from over — and the troops confronting them agree.

The Gulf crisis is occupying the attention of world leaders and Palestinian support for Iraq has eroded support from Israeli leftists.

New tactics introduced after Moshe Arens' appointment as defence minister in June have reduced visible violence in the occupied territories and with it a minimal army presence could the revolt be considered quelled.

"We're still not there, that's for sure and how far away is hard to say," the source said.

Ghassan Al Khatib, a supporter of the Palestine Communist Party, anticipates renewed unrest in coming weeks but says it will change nothing.

"The Palestinians will try to escalate the intifada and the Israelis will try to escalate their

over, only its violent expression," a military source said.

"The army's goal is to reduce the pressure caused by the violence so that the politicians can deal with the political aspect," he said.

## Iran's 'deal' with Iraq to benefit its economy

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Iran's reported food-for-oil deal with its old adversary Iraq could allow Tehran to boost its oil exports and earn nearly \$2 billion a year at current prices, according to oil experts.

That would be a bonus for cash-strapped Iran, which has already gained politically from the Gulf crisis.

A well-informed source in Tehran said Tuesday that Iran had agreed to allow "humanitarian shipments" of food and medicine into Iraq, despite U.N. sanctions imposed following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on Aug. 2.

He said that Iraq in return agreed to give Iran 200,000 barrels of refined oil a day free and pay an undisclosed amount of money.

The source said the deal was struck during a visit Sunday by Iraq's Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz.

He said Iraq offered to pay in oil for essentials Tehran allowed across the border. He said Iran refused to accept full payment in oil, but agreed to take up to

200,000 barrels a day of refined products.

Aziz, the first senior Iraqi official to visit Iran in 15 years, was accompanied by Oil Minister Abdul Rahim Chalabi.

The Tehran Times, a daily newspaper close to Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani's government, denied that Iran would take Iraqi oil.

It quoted an unidentified "informed source" in Tehran as saying the government had not decided whether to allow shipments into Iraq.

U.S. State Department officials said they believe Tehran will abide by the sanctions, as it has said it would.

The Tehran Times quoted its source as saying that if Iran decided to allow shipments into Iraq, "it is only out of humanitarian considerations, as we believe innocent Iraqi people are not responsible for their government's move."

Pierre Terzian, editor of the Paris-based newsletter Petrosatrics, said in a telephone interview that Iran "probably could supply enough food to the right

people and places to keep the Iraqi economy going."

Iran's oil refineries, damaged during the 1980-88 war with Iraq, are producing about 600,000 barrels of fuel and other products a day.

Domestic demand is about 750,000 barrels, so the Iranians have been importing 150,000 barrels a day, paid for in scarce foreign currency.

By bringing in refined oil from Iraq, oil experts say Tehran would be able to halt costly imports of refined products and sell an equivalent amount of its own crude on top of its current exports.

Peter Bogin, associate director for oil markets at Cambridge Energy Research Associates in Paris, said that at \$25 a barrel, 200,000 barrels of oil could bring in \$5 million a day for Iran.

Iran is currently pumping about 3.1 million barrels of crude oil a day, its maximum capacity.

### U.S. view

The United States said Thursday there was no evidence Iran

## India loads ship with food for Gulf

NEW DELHI (R) — An Indian ship loaded with up to 10,000 tonnes of food will sail to the Gulf within the next two days after Delhi finally won United Nations permission to feed its people trapped in Iraq and Kuwait.

Officials said Friday the cargo ship Vishwa Siddhi would bring back some of the estimated 125,000 Indians still trapped in Kuwait.

"It will sail tomorrow or the day after, we're not sure which yet, and will bring back refugees," a senior official told Reuters.

The official, who asked not to be identified, said the delay of more than one week in winning U.N. Security Council permission to send the ship had forced a change in plans.

The passenger ship Akbar had been loaded with food at the southern port of Cochin, ready to sail at two hours notice.

But the official said the Akbar was needed for domestic work and had been unloaded and sent back to its normal base at Bombay.

"We couldn't have it standing by for a long time in the hope that the U.N. would give us permission," he said.

A senior shipping official in Bombay said the 12,972 tonne Vishwa Siddhi was being loaded at Cochin Friday, but was unsuitable for bringing back people.

India has fought long and hard for permission to send the ship in the face of opposition from the United States and Britain, both permanent members of the Security Council.

Foreign Minister Inder Kumar Gujral told parliament last Friday India had been told that if it tried to send a ship carrying food without U.N. permission, the vessel would be stopped.

India sees ships as the easiest way to get its people out of Kuwait and Iraq, but ran into serious problems when Iraq refused to accept them — or planes to Baghdad and the southern

Iraqi port of Basra — unless they brought food. Iraq denies the charge.

Washington said food shortages in Kuwait were not of the magnitude to require humanitarian shipments of food allowed under stringent U.N. sanctions against Iraq for its Aug. 2 takeover of Kuwait.

That attitude caused some bitter official comments from Delhi, which then made a major effort to win U.N. permission, finally granted late Thursday as an exception to the sanctions.

A senior Indian official said the idea was to send the Indian ship and see what Iraq would do.

Another said Delhi had sent a formal protest to Baghdad over Iraq's food condition for flights and ships to evacuate Indians directly from Iraq and Kuwait.

He said it accused Baghdad of renegeing on assurances of complete cooperation in evacuating Indians. The assurances were given to Gjural during a visit to the Iraqi capital, which included talks with President Saddam Hussein, shortly after the invasion.

There were 172,000 Indians in Kuwait and about 10,000 in Iraq when Baghdad's army swept into Kuwait.

In the past week, India has stepped up its flights from Amman and Dubai and is now bringing home close to 4,000 Indians a day, officials said.

### WFP food aid

The World Food Programme said Friday it will provide an additional \$2.4 million in food aid to refugees from Kuwait and Iraq.

A total of 5,372 tons of rice, wheat flour and edible oil will be delivered to Jordan to help feed 120,000 people for 90 days and build up a 30-day buffer stock, the Rome-based agency said in a statement.

The aid was approved in response to urgent appeals from the government of Jordan.

## Israeli ministers to meet Gorbachev

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's finance and science ministers left Friday for Moscow where they will become the first cabinet members from the Jewish state to meet Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, a treasury official said.

Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai and Science Minister Yuval Neeman flew to Vienna and were to board a connecting flight to Moscow. The secretly planned trip is the latest indication of improving relations between the Soviet Union and Israel.

"The ministers will hold talks with senior Soviet officials and will meet Gorbachev either today or Saturday night," finance ministry spokesman Eli Yosef told Reuters. He said Modai and Neeman would return Sunday.

No Israeli cabinet minister has

met a Soviet leader since Moscow and all of its Communist allies except Romania severed diplomatic relations with Israel over the 1967 Middle East war.

Apart from the Soviet Union, most East European states have renewed full ties with Israel in the past year. The Jewish state is eager to restore ties with Moscow.

The Soviet Union and Israel renewed consular relations in 1987 and have been drawn into greater contact over Middle East peace efforts and a flood Soviet Jewish immigrants to Israel.

The first official Israeli government delegation invited by the Soviet Union in 23 years arrived in Moscow Thursday to plan a meeting between the Israeli and Soviet foreign ministers, David Levy and Edward Shevardnadze.

at the United Nations later this month.

Yosef refused to confirm an Israeli army radio report that Modai and Neeman would discuss agricultural sales to the Soviet Union and a project in which the Jewish state would refurbish Soviet airliners with U.S.-built engines and Israeli avionics.

Since taking office in Israel's right-wing government in June, Modai has concentrated on ways to absorb one million Soviet Jewish immigrants expected over the next five years. His economic plan was approved by the cabinet Thursday.

Housing Minister Ariel Sharon, another key minister involved in immigration, flew to Moscow last week on a similarly secret trip, at the invitation of a building

cooperative and the Moscow City Council.

He discussed a possible barter arrangement exchanging housing for fruit and vegetables in short supply in the Soviet capital. Some 90,000 Soviet immigrants have arrived in Israel so far this year, causing a housing shortage.

The hawkish Modai heads a small faction in Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud Party. Neeman, from the ultra-nationalist Tehiya Party, is a physicist who has held senior positions in Israel's secretive nuclear programme.

Both ministers support permanent Israeli control over the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In June, Modai said Israel would comply with a Soviet demand not to direct new immigrants to Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

**SAUDI ARABIA (Agencies) —** Impatient U.S. troops badgered the chief of the American armed forces on Thursday to give them a deadline for their desert deployment in Saudi Arabia.

As he left the 24th infantry division's camp area, soldiers bombarded General Colin Powell with questions about when they could expect to go home.

"I want to get you home as fast as possible but bear with me... I can't give you an exact date. Don't think I ever forget that you have loved ones back home," said Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The scene was repeated at other stops on the general's tour of units in the 140,000-strong U.S. force deployed in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf.

In a field hospital laboratory, Powell asked Sergeant Robert Tate how he was doing. "I would be better if I was at home," Tate replied.

A patient at the hospital, Airman Patrick Vrooman, told reporters after Powell had left: "I want to get out of here (Saudi Arabia) as soon as practicable, he added.

"Morale is high, the troops are hot, there's not a high level of frustration in spite of what they are doing... they are good for the long haul," he told the news conference.

Camouflage uniforms worn by American troops in Saudi Arabia are made for cooler climates, not searing desert heat, military and clothing industry officials say.

The problem is the hot weather uniform, made entirely of cotton, doesn't have the desert camouflage pattern.

The uniform worn by troops is made of the same material — half nylon and half cotton — that was criticized as hot and uncomfortable by American soldiers during the 1982 invasion of Grenada.

Weather conditions are much harsher in the Saudi desert than in Grenada. Daytime temperatures have gone as high as 120 degrees Fahrenheit (48 degrees Celsius) since U.S. forces were sent there in August.

The U.S. administration has not yet decided on the ultimate size of the military force it will

send to the Gulf, U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney said Thursday.

Cheney, on a three-day speaking tour and visit to U.S. military bases in California, said at a news conference that he expected the U.S. troop buildup in the Gulf to continue for some time.

"We haven't specified the final troop level yet," he said.

"The arrangement basically is that we have been given certain missions by the president," Cheney said. "He's asked us to deploy forces to the Gulf to deter further Iraqi aggression, to be able to defend Saudi Arabia and our other friends in the region should deterrence fail, as well as be prepared to use those forces to enforce the U.N. sanctions."

The defence secretary said the buildup will continue until military commanders tell him and the president that they have sufficient forces to "do the job."

"For operational reasons and security reasons, we've not specified exactly what level that will be," Cheney said.

He said there were now military personnel from more than 20 countries involved in the U.S.-led operation, but he did not expect the creation of a more formalized command structure to oversee them.

Cheney said that despite the Gulf crisis the U.S. administration was determined to continue with plans to close a number of military bases in the United States.

## 'Mossad deceived CIA and U.S. military'

NEW YORK (R) — The Israeli intelligence agency Mossad knew the head of Mossad, Nahum Admoni, to give the CIA all the information it needed on Buckley.

"Admoni assured Peres that he would do everything he could to help the Americans... in truth, he had no intention of helping them."

Ostrovsky told of meetings between CIA and Mossad representatives in which the Israeli agency tried to "blame the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organization) for the kidnappings, even with the knowledge that many of them, including Buckley's, had no PLO connection."

Buckley was held and tortured for 18 months before being killed in 1985. The pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad (Holy War) group claimed responsibility.

When Israeli bombers destroyed the Iraqi nuclear reactor, it was the culmination of a three-year Mossad operation that used money and prostitutes to lure an unhappily married Iraqi scientist to map out the plant. Ostrovsky

also tried to lure the scientist's boss into giving them information, he wrote.

The boss, Egyptian-born physicist Yahia Al Meshad, "was heavily into kinky sex. S and M (sadomasochism) actually, and a booker whose nickname was Marie Express had been entertaining him regularly," Ostrovsky wrote.

When the attempt to get Meshad on their side failed, Mossad killed him, Ostrovsky wrote.

Israel, in a statement released Thursday, said it would not "credit any of the stories raised in the book by addressing them."

Ostrovsky has gone into hiding, fearing his former colleagues may try to kill him, his co-author Claire Hoy told Reuters.

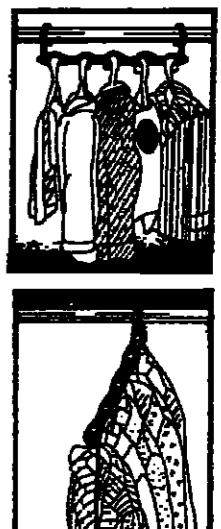
"You know one man's traitor is another man's patriot. He sees himself as a patriot of Israel. He loves Israel. He thinks they have gone off their proper course," Hoy said.

He said that then Israeli Prime

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13:25	Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GEC)
14:35	Rome (AZ)
15:35	Dubai, Damas (EK)
17:30	Paris, Damascus (AF)
21:40	London (BA)

#### DEPARTURES

##### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:00	Amman	Arabia (RJ)
11:45	Amman	Paris (AF)
12:45	Amman	Vietnam (AF)</td

## British minister urges more aid for evacuees

By Ghadeer Taher  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — British Minister for Overseas Development Linda Chalker urged the international community to contribute more relief aid to Jordan as well as planes to airdrop refugees home.

"My first task is to persuade the international community, governments and airlines, to get sufficient air transport and funding for charters to get people home," Chalker told a press conference Thursday at the end of a three-day visit to the Kingdom. The minister, who met Her Majesty Queen Noor and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan to discuss the refugee plight and the economic pressure Jordan is facing, left Friday morning for England.

The British minister visited Shaalan I, Shaalan II and Mercury Camp as well as transit camps near Amman. Chalker said the situation in the border camps had improved and she was informed that Shaalan I "would be razed today (Thursday)."

She said that her "second major task" was to insure the passage of supplies to Jordan to "cope with the existing and potential future refugees."

She said that Jordanian officials had told her of a "further impending problem" — 300,000 Egyptians and 60,000 Asians were being held in camps outside the Iraqi capital waiting to cross into Jordan.

"There are another 250,000 Asians in Iraq and Kuwait who may indeed come through Jordan to get home," the minister said. "There is no good waiting until the end of the month. The help is needed now."

According to Chalker, out of the 50,000 people waiting to go home "there is a shortfall of probably 20,000."

Ministry of Interior Secretary-General Salameh Hamad, who is heading a government task force dealing with the refugees, said Thursday that Jordan was expecting more than 600,000 refugees from Kuwait and Iraq to cross into Jordan.

Chalker said Britain had already donated over £5 mil-

lion (\$10.2 million) to help Jordan provide food, medicine, shelter and transport to the refugees. The minister said the British government had chartered three aircraft to bring 120 metric tonnes of supplies donated by the British people. The minister said she expected the supplies to arrive in Jordan "in the next couple of days."

In answer to a question about what more should be done to help the refugees and Jordan, Chalker said: "First of all the International Organisation for Migration needs money with which to charter planes..."

the second thing is to see whether we could do something about the insurance which is very heavy... the third thing is whether anymore shipping companies will put forward ships that can take people home."

She voiced concern about the "communication problem" with the Asians in the camps.

"There is nothing worse than being a refugee and not knowing what is going on," she said.

Chalker said she hoped appeals to governments and airlines would result in getting people home. She said the general in charge of the Jordanian Air Force had told her he could handle all the planes "we can possibly get" and allow them to leave five to ten minutes apart. The minister said it would be better to use civilian aircraft rather than military ones because of the "tense situation in the Gulf."

She said she hoped to get "a better response" from British Airways to send airplanes to airlift the refugees home. "I have spoken to Lord King (head of British Airways) once and I will speak to him when I get home."

In answer to a question about the delay in the response by the international community to Jordan's appeals for assistance, Chalker said "the enormity of this problem had not been understood outside Jordan."

"It is always easy with hindsight to criticise. Let us get on with the job and I cannot change the past but I jolly well intend to improve the future to get these people home."

## Queen receives British minister

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Wednesday received at Al Ma'a Palace the British MP Minister of Overseas Affairs, Lynda Chalker, who is currently visiting Jordan.

During the meeting, Queen Noor briefed the minister on the evacuees' crisis in Jordan and stressed the need for international support and coordination in handling the evacuees as well as the repercussions that their influx has on the country's economic and social aspects.

Both the Queen and the minister reiterated the need to repatriate the evacuees as soon as possible, so as to avoid further complications.

Her Majesty said that the hu-

man tragedy Jordan was trying to cope with came as a consequence of the escalating tension in the Gulf and that it would be eased if a diplomatic settlement to the Gulf crisis were reached.

Her Majesty stated that Jordan, both its government and its people, were doing their utmost to offer relief services to the evacuees, and that transportation arrangements had been made, in coordination with the evacuees' respective countries for speedy repatriation.

The Queen expressed her appreciation of the international organisations who responded to the country's appeal for aid and are doing their best to extend their relief services.

## Ration cards to be issued at workplace

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Supply has announced a new measure to facilitate the distribution of ration cards to the public to enable them to buy rice, sugar and powdered milk at subsidised prices.

The Ministry's Secretary-General Radi Ibrahim said in a statement Friday that as of Saturday, day cards will be issued to beneficiaries at their places of work, in groups, like employees of the Armed Forces, the public security and the civil defence departments, professional unions, major companies and banks.

He said that citizens were not restricted by time to obtain the ration cards but should hurry to receive their coupons to purchase the subsidised commodities if they needed them immediately. "Citizens securing coupons from now and until the end of November can buy their allowances of these commodities for September, October and November, those who fail to get their cards and coupons lose their right for these three months, but not for the subsequent months," Ibrahim said.

## Jordanian elected member of U.N. Human Rights Committee

AMMAN (J.T.) — Columnist Waleed Sadi was elected to the prestigious 18-member U.N. Human Rights Committee in an election held at the U.N. headquarters in New York Thursday. The Human Rights Committee is charged with the mandate of monitoring the application of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights by the states which have ratified this Covenant and meets three times annually for this purpose, once in New York and twice in Geneva.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zarni displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).
- Exhibition displaying posters on environmental control measures of each sector of the environment (air, land and water) at the British Council.
- Archaeological exhibition entitled "Al Lajjun — a Roman Fortress Fort" at the Registration and Research Centre of the Department of Antiquities, Jabal Amman.
- Art exhibition by Mohammed Nasralah at the Royal Cultural Centre.

### LECTURE

- Lecture by Prof. Dr. Siegfried Mittermaier entitled "Khirbet Ez-Zarqa — the City of Early Bronze Age in Northern Jordan" at the Goethe Institute — 7:00 p.m.

### THEATRE

- Part one of the Shakespeare's play "Othello" will be shown on video at the British Council at 5:00 p.m.

*Drive carefully!*

*Traffic can be hazardous*

## Crown Prince: Arab solution in the Gulf will not contradict international legitimacy

AMMAN (J.T.) — An Arab solution to the Gulf crisis would be contained in an Arab framework and not through a foreign security system, since the Arabs should have the prime responsibility for their region's peace and security.

Prince Hassan reiterated that Jordan rejects the annexation of Kuwait as it had rejected the occupation of the Falklands and Afghanistan, and continues to reject the military occupation and annexation of Jerusalem and other parts of Palestinian land.

Jordanians and the Palestinians, he added, feel that a grave injustice has been done to them as a result of 23 years of Israeli occupation of Palestinian land and seek to implement U.N. resolutions to achieve justice.

Prince Hassan said Jordan

hoped the Gulf crisis would be contained in an Arab framework and not through a foreign security system, since the Arabs should have the prime responsibility for their region's peace and security.

Prince Hassan reiterated that Jordan's future relations with Saudi Arabia and Kuwait in the light of Jordan's present stand on the Gulf crisis, the Crown Prince said that Jordan could by no means be ungrateful to Saudi and Kuwaiti financial assistance in the past years; but Jordan, he said, was severely hit by the Gulf crisis since 50 per cent of its exports go to Iraq and Kuwait, and it stands to lose nearly \$3 billion annually should the crisis continue.

Jordan, he added, wanted to see Arab capital invested in the Third World countries.

Arab countries and the United States taking a more even-handed role, supporting peace rather than war.

He said that Jordan was caught up in the crisis and was hard hit by the sanctions imposed on Iraq following its takeover of Kuwait.

In reply to a question about Jordan's stand vis-a-vis Iraq's offer of free oil to poor countries, Prince Hassan said that Iraq was supplying Jordan with oil in settlement of previous debts and should this oil stop, the Kingdom's industry would come to a standstill at a time when the country suffers from an unemployment problem.

He said that Jordan welcomed the Iraqi offer of free oil for the Third World countries.

## Lecture stresses importance of Arab unity in attaining goals

By Ali Masarwah  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A lecture entitled "Palestine in the year 2000 — Arabic and International Perspectives" was held by Shafiq Al-Hut, a prominent Palestinian literary figure and former PLO Executive Committee member, at the Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation Wednesday evening.

During his address Al-Hut reviewed the development of regional and international events during the twentieth century which have led to the current state of division in the Arab World.

The twentieth century has seen the colonialisation of the Arab World, the division of the Arab World into separate entities, the establishment of the state of Israel and the polarisation between the East and the West which further deepened the rift between the whole nation and that pressing problems should be distinguished between friend and foe.

"The Arabs have to go back to their roots, set priorities and define their goals; without re-establishing the true Arab identity, there can be no hope of finding a way out of this abyss or retaining what we still possess," Al-Hut said.

In an obvious reference to the Palestine problem, Al-Hut declared that there was no way regional suffering could be separate from the destiny of the whole nation and that pressing problems should be addressed by all Arabs.

"Even the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and the end of the cold war had brought no respite for Arabs as the East-West confrontation is

now evolving into a North-South conflict which will be fought over the control of natural resources," according to Al-Hut.

Citing the events taking place in Lebanon as an example, the speaker said the current state of Arab affairs had become confused to a degree which makes it impossible to distinguish between friend and foe.

"The Arabs have to go back to their roots, set priorities and define their goals; without re-establishing the true Arab identity, there can be no hope of finding a way out of this abyss or retaining what we still possess," Al-Hut said.

In an obvious reference to the Palestine problem, Al-Hut declared that there was no way regional suffering could be separate from the destiny of the whole nation and that pressing problems should be addressed by all Arabs.

"Even the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe and the end of the cold war had brought no respite for Arabs as the East-West confrontation is

"Carrying banners and chanting slogans will not bring about the necessary changes; the Arab minds have to be freed and people must be given their share of responsibility in formulating policies and in influencing the decision making process."

While hailing the Palestinian uprising as a "great success" which had revealed the true nature of the Palestinian struggle for self-determination, Al-Hut criticised the high-level PLO policy of being "inactive" and "idle" after proclaiming the Palestinian state two years ago.

"We did not pursue the final transformation from a revolutionary movement to a state; the nature of the organisation (PLO) after being transformed into the government (of the state of Palestine) is not at all clear. Upon announcing our initiative, we failed to put across the political message through the media in the appropriate manner," he maintained.

Despite the generally pessimistic tone of the lecture, Shafiq Al-Hut said he remained optimistic about the outcome of the Palestinian struggle. Quoting the French author Andre Maurois Al-Hut said that "issues farthest away from the mind are those closest to realisation."

## Democratic unionist association calls for Arab solution to crisis

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Democratic Unionist Association of Jordan rejected excuses for foreign deployment of forces in Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states and called for an Arab solution "which will embody the Arab interests, will and abilities."

"It is unacceptable to bring in foreign armed forces under the excuse of defence of any Arab entity or rule," the statement of the association pointed out.

"Any solution to Gulf crisis should ensure the withdrawal of all foreign forces from the Arab peninsula and its waters,"

the statement, signed by the association's president Jamal Al-Shaer and 14 of its members, added.

The four-page long statement systematically analysed the developments leading to the outbreak of the Gulf crisis and placed great emphasis on what it said was "the Arab political order reaching the brink of bankruptcy embodied in the absence of the collective political will of the evictees."

"We are in need of assistance for the evictees; at the same time we see no way we can prevent an increasing numbering from entering the country."

Hamad said he hoped other countries in the region, such as Iran and Turkey, would open their borders to the flood of evictees.

The statement outlined eight "primary foundations" for political settlement of the Gulf crisis.

— The withdrawal of foreign forces from the Arabian peninsula.

— Reassessment of United Nations Resolution 665 which was passed as a cover for the U.S. and its allies to use force and an economic embargo on Iraq and to force the whole region into submission to the American military hegemony.

— The legitimacy of U.N. resolutions is closely tied to their application in all cases without discrimination and should include the resolutions on the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

— The Arab security needs are closely tied to collective Arab efforts which in turn calls for developing the charters of the Arab League to provide it with the proper mechanism in line with the Arab will.

— The legitimacy of Arab rule is primarily based on Arab self-determination which means that it should not give the rights of citizenship only to the ministry to profit from economic resources especially in those regimes that came into being without popular support or for continued rule.

— The higher Arab interest lies in the proper utilisation of Arab oil wealth and should grow beyond the limited interest of one country or another.

— The Iraqi-Kuwaiti issue came as a result of problems immediately connected to both of them and the justifiable fears of Iraq from the intentions of the U.S. towards Iraq, the Gulf and the whole Arab Nation.

— The elements highlighted by the historic war between the Arab Nation and its attempts to develop on the one hand, and the countries, led by the U.S., who still want to control the region highlight the struggle between the elements of future and independence and the elements of backwardness.

— The Armenian patriarch arrives in Jordan

AMMAN (AP) — The Armenian Orthodox Church Patriarch for Jordan and the Holy Land, Toros Manoukian, arrived Friday for his first visit to Jordan since being elected to the position in March.

Manoukian planned a five-day visit expected to include a conference with King Hussein, government officials and a Sunday midday sermon at the Armenian Church on Jabal Ashrafieh in Amman, an Armenian community spokesman said.

Based in Jerusalem, Manoukian is the most senior patriarch in the church after the leaders in Yerevan, Armenia, and in Lebanon, said the spokesman.

Now 72, the patriarch was archbishop in New York City for more than 20 years, the spokesman said. He was born in Iraq and became a priest in Jerusalem.

Worldwide, the church has 9 million members, including 3,000 in Jordan and 5,000 in Israel and Palestine, the spokesman said.

In an arrival statement Patriarch Manoukian said his visit was aimed at meeting with the

Armenian community in Jordan and familiarising himself with their living conditions. The patriarch said that the current situation in the region calls for solidarity and rallying behind the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein.

Manoukian was received upon arrival by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Balqa governor and police department director and senior government officials.

Later in an arrival ceremony at the Armenian Orthodox Church, the patriarch called on all Armenians in the Kingdom to fully support the King and his endeavours to find a peaceful solution to the Middle East problems.

He also called for the Armenian community's active involvement in contributing to the prosperity of Jordan under the leadership of King Hussein.



## Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation.  
Established 1975

جريدة عربية سياسية يومية مستقلة صادرة عن مؤسسة الأردن للطباعة والتوزيع

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Jordan Press Foundation,  
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Faximile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays.  
Subscription and advertising rates are available from the  
Jordan Times advertising department.

## Let the masses shape their future

THE ARAB people's conference that His Majesty the King will open today is an important yardstick in our nation's struggle for unity, liberty and progress. It is not a substitute for Arab summits or collective action on the state or Arab League levels. Nor is it an alternative to unified Arab stands and positions. But it should be viewed as a forum for representatives of the Arab masses to say their mind and word on what is happening around them.

The fact that the conference takes place in Amman, and that it is being opposed by numerous Arab governments who have allied themselves with colonialist mentalities and actions, says something about the Arab people's determination to be the important constituent part that they should be in shaping their future and their nation's policies, especially at this critical stage. There are two major factors involved in this endeavour. The first is that the Arab man and woman in the street have had enough of living with unrepresentative decisions, taken on their behalf by their governments, that go against their will and interest. The second is that the Arab people would never want to polarise politically the way the Arab regimes have following the ill-fated Arab summit conference in Cairo on Aug. 10.

The message here should be loud and clear: Through democracy and democratic practices, without interference from foreign powers, the Arab Nation can debate its problems and aspirations and can express its free will in what kind of future it wants for itself.

The conference can be interpreted as a solid attempt to bring all Arab popular forces together with the aim of studying and analysing what has happened in the Gulf and where we expect to head now.

The meeting is called upon to reflect and bring out the true sentiments and feelings of the Arab masses at large. It is no place for rhetoric and for settling old scores. To our mind, the various parties, groups and individuals who will attend the conference are not all united in their views on the Iraq-Kuwait conflict. But they are in their total opposition to the presence on Arab soil of foreign troops whose purpose appears to be none other than the recolonisation of the Arab Homeland or at least the subjugation of the Arab will and resources through military means.

The holding of the conference in Amman is testimony to the success of Jordan's democratisation process that has taken root in our society over the past year. Except for the West Bank and Gaza perhaps, there has been no Arab street that has truly represented Arab feelings towards the Gulf crisis more than here in Jordan. This is a healthy sign of a democracy that should be emulated and followed throughout the Arab World. Let the representatives of the Arab masses have their say in what is going on around them and their decisions be the guide for action by their governments.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

TEHRAN'S declaration of a holy war on the United States and the other invading forces in the Gulf is bound to tip the balance of power in the region and prompt countries involved with the United States in its adventure to reconsider their position carefully, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily Friday. The new development means cohesion between the Arabs and the Muslims around the world, and the internationalisation of the whole crisis. Iran's declaration of a holy war against the Americans means that any Muslim around the world could carry out any attack against American interests, and that Iraq would not be solely blamed for any harm to American interests from now on, the paper pointed out. Millions of Muslims, said the paper, will from now on make it their business to wage a war on the Americans to end their presence in the holy land and remove their danger from the Arab and Islamic area. The Americans are now playing down the effect of such a declaration by Tehran, and they say that Iran will remain committed to the embargo and will not help Iraq, said the paper. This means, the paper added, that the Americans are now desperately begging Iran to refrain from assisting Iraq in its confrontation with the American and allied forces. The paper called on Arab and Islamic nations to respond favourably to Iran's declaration and bolster the Arab-Islamic front against the invading American forces and their allies to safeguard national interests and protect the holy land.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Friday calls on the Jordanian government to close the door before the Asian and Egyptian nationals and bar any of them from entering Jordanian territory as the Kingdom is facing a gigantic task of caring for the refugees. Ghazi Al Saadi says that Jordan with its poor and meagre resources of food and water is struggling to give accommodation to the thousands of evacuees who could have taken other routes to reach their home instead of burdening Jordan with their needs of subsistence. Should a war break out in the Gulf and should the ruined borders post remain open to the evacuees no less than two million expatriates would find their way to the Kingdom, says Saadi. In the event of war Jordan will definitely find itself incapable of feeding the huge influx of refugees, who are bound to starve, adds the writer. In addition, those who are already here will not doubt try desperately to remain in Jordan because many of them have originally left their home countries to escape hunger or religious or racial discrimination and will seek work in this country no matter how low the wages are, says the writer. Jordan, he says, should take precautionary measures now before it is too late, and avoid confronting a real human tragedy far more dangerous than the one we are witnessing at present.

Al Dastour daily said Friday that Britain is trying to find a way through the Americans to create new realities in the Arab region and to establish a permanent foothold for the Western forces in the Arab land. Of course Britain and the United States are together trying to pillage Arab wealth and Arab oil, and subdue the Arab nation under the pretext of a new security order, the paper said.

## View from Amman

# 'The Helsinki summit: Opportunities'

By Kamel S. Abu Jaber

THE IMPORTANCE for us in the Arab World of the Helsinki summit between U.S. President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev must not be underrated. On the international level, the summit was the first to be held in the post-Malta summit and the atmosphere of the detente of the post-cold-war era, detente that quickly developed into partnership between the two powers. On the regional level and on both its two tiers: the Arab and the non-Arab states of the Middle East, the Helsinki summit may prove of decisive historical significance. For while it was called to deal with the Gulf crisis-1990 specifically; it also discussed other matters and problems of importance to the entire area.

Before entering into the reasons behind the importance of this summit, I must admit that I was almost totally surprised by its results. This is especially true in view of the very weak and vulnerable poli-

tical position of the Soviet Union — a vulnerability that the Soviet premier emphasised three days later when speaking to the Austrian TV saying that forces within the Soviet Union, including its economic troubles, may cause it to disintegrate. It is in light of this fact that the statement issued at the end of the summit should be viewed. It emphasises, among other things, the United States desire to bolster the progressively weakening position of Gorbachev, indeed, the Soviet Union itself. Prior to its convention, I thought that it might end up like the June 23, 1967 Glassboro summit between President Johnson and Alexei Kosygin which resulted in the effective abandoning of the affairs of the Middle East by the Soviet Union in favour of the United States.

Apart from the fact that the statement of the Helsinki summit sounded tough on Iraq and also subject to different interpretations by different people,

it indicated that the "new atmosphere" in international relations is a reality that others in the world must realise. Three days after the summit Bush emphasised that "... a new partnership of nations has begun..." The new partnership promises to be more than a passing mood. It is a new reality that poses dangers as well as offers opportunities. And we in the Middle East should come quickly to grips with it. We also must understand that the United States is going to stay in the area for a very long time. Perhaps till the last barrel of oil is extracted from the ground. On this point Bush said on Sept. 11, 1990: "... Our involvement in the Gulf is not transitory... it preceded Saddam Hussein and will survive him..."

In any case the Helsinki summit emphasised that in the next stage of the crisis in the Gulf only peaceful means should be pursued. This is important, in that it gives time

to intervene between the two Arab camps on the one hand and to develop the so-called "Arab solution." It is not enough to speak of an Arab solution in general terms: Such a solution must be elaborated and developed in such a way that it can constitute an Arab initiative. Such an initiative should provide the ground work not only for the general reconciliation of the Arabs with themselves, but also satisfy at least the minimum demands of both original parties to the dispute; Iraq and Kuwait.

Iraq has been saying it is willing to negotiate, should a linkage between the Gulf and other Middle Eastern crises become a reality. A step, perhaps only tentative in this direction has been taken which, if pursued intelligently, and without our usual bombastic rhetoric, would constitute a precedent in this direction. In its final paragraph, the statement was quite clear on

this point. It clearly emphasised that "... the presidents (Bush and Gorbachev) direct their foreign ministers to work with countries in the region and outside it to develop regional security structures and measures to promote peace and stability. It is essential to work actively to resolve all the remaining conflicts in the Middle East..."

Of all the Arab states of the region, Jordan has emerged as the most qualified to pursue a mediation effort that should aim at restoring at least a modicum of Arab understanding. While Jordan's position has been clear vis-a-vis the necessity of Iraq withdrawal from Kuwait and the restoration of legitimacy there, it has maintained good relations with Iraq and at least a working relationship with other Arab states. It is now the duty of Jordan to move quickly to crystallise an Arab position that satisfies the original parties to the dispute. Immediate consultations with King Fahd

and presidents Mubarak and Assad are of the essence now. What would Iraq really settle for? Also what would Kuwait as well as the other parties to the dispute contemplate, as so reasonable they can at least live with?

While a compromise is not to the complete satisfaction of all, it, at least avoids violence, and allows not only for one to live with one's self, but to look towards the future as well. How can the region ever settle should much Iraqi, Saudi, Egyptian and Syrian blood be spilled?

Jordan's role now is more vital than ever and given time and some support, the task may not be an impossible one. It was Jordan that worked towards the reconciliation of Egypt with the rest of the Arab World. If anything, His Majesty King Hussein has demonstrated time and again his great ability, to be creative, almost always a step ahead of events. If new thinking is needed, he is the man for it.

## Habash: Arabs have option

(Continued from page 1)

Zionists do not have any right to control one quarter of a metre of Palestinian land," he argued.

Yet, he said, the Arabs would be ready to accept all international resolutions concerning the Gulf and the Palestinian problem if the U.S. proves itself genuine in its commitment to international legitimacy regarding all problems.

"We are more than ready to resort to international legitimacy concerning the region. But there are international resolutions pertaining to the Palestinian problem. You are welcome to apply the international resolutions on the Gulf if you are ready to apply them on all problems," he said.

"But if the U.S. posture as guardian of the international legitimacy proved to be fake then we would by challenging it to apply all resolutions to expose its threats and pretences and resort to Arab revolutionary legitimacy," he said.

He said that the initiative decided by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on Aug. 12 linking a solution to the Gulf crisis and an overall settlement for the Middle East conflict would serve as a good basis for establishing peace in the region.

The Iraqi initiative says the following: Listen the U.S., if you want to apply international legitimacy on the Gulf and if you insist on posing as the defender of international legitimacy we are ready for all of this. But there are other resolutions concerning the Palestinian problem and Lebanon which also should be applied," he said.

Habash argued that the division within the official Arab ranks over the Gulf crisis did not reflect on the Arab people. "On the contrary, the Arab masses are united behind Iraq and against foreign intervention," he said.

The Palestinian leader said that except for Syria the current division

of the Arab World in two camps was predictable in view of the concerned countries' level of dependence on the West.

"The Gulf states endorsed an attitude compatible with their longstanding policies and reliance on the West. The same applies to the Camp David regime in Egypt, and the Camp David godfather, Morocco," he said. "But the Syrian position was unpredictable and unexpected."

Habash, who is based in Damascus, expressed hope that Syria would reconsider its position and "assume its natural place among the countries which opposed the foreign presence in the Gulf."

Habash dismissed suggestions that the PLO was undermining its own longstanding quest for self-determination by supporting Iraq. "One has to closely study the PLO position. The PLO has declared publicly that it did not support the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait and has been searching for an Arab solution," he said.

He pointed out self-determination for the Kuwaiti people had been a basic principle and ingredient of the PLO's initiative for a solution to the Gulf crisis.

Asked whether a serious setback could befall the Palestinian struggle if Iraq was defeated, especially that the PLO is backing Iraq and can no longer count on full-heeled support for the organisation, Habash said that the Arabs should not be deterred by American power.

"I know very well that the U.S. administration feels now that it has reached the peak of its glory. I know that it feels that it has won the cold war against the socialist bloc. I know that it feels that the world has been transformed from a bi-polar one into a one-polar world led by the U.S.," he said. "But I also know that the U.S. is not the destiny of the Palestinian people, or the destiny of the Arab people or even the destiny of humanity."

## Hawatmeh

(Continued from page 1)

oil... when an Arab country took the initiative to control Arab wealth... They have come 12,000 kilometres to the Gulf... while no Arab soldier has entered American soil," he said.

However, asked if the DFLP will order attacks on Western targets if the foreign forces do not leave the Gulf, Hawatmeh reaffirmed the PLO's commitment not to stage attacks outside Palestine. "Such attacks will not happen," he said. "We are fully committed not to carry out any attack outside Palestine."

The Jordanian-born Palestinian leader compared the present situation in the region with the 1956 Suez Canal crisis and predicted that Western powers will lose in the confrontation. "I anticipate that just as the 1956 war was the beginning of the end for the British and French empires, this crisis will also mark the end for foreign empires here in the region," said Hawatmeh, who was born in Salt, 30 kilometres outside Amman.

The DFLP leader said Jordani-Palestinian relations had improved greatly in the wake of the initiation of the democratic process in the Kingdom last year.

The democratisation process in Jordan has opened the course for reestablishing Jordani-Palestinian relations on a brotherly and pan-Arab basis," he said.

Jordani-Palestinian relations have improved greatly in part because of the courageous stand endorsed by the Jordani people, government and King Hussein against the foreign military intervention in the Gulf," he said.

(Continued from page 1)

wished the conference every success in reaching a pan-Arab solution to the Gulf crisis.

The organisers also received a cable from Algerian National Liberation Front (FLN), former assistant secretary general Mohammad Sherif Masadieh who also regretted being unable to attend for "technical reasons related to air transport."

Masadieh expressed his "full

Hawatmeh said. Speaking on behalf of his party at times and on behalf of the PLO at others, Hawatmeh said: "We believe that the current mobilisation and build-up of North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and American troops in the Gulf took place as a result of precalculated and predetermined plans."

He boosted his argument by pointing out that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker said recently that U.S. troops might remain in the Gulf even after crisis — over and referring to Baker's forming a regional military alliance.

Hawatmeh reiterated the often-asked question in the Arab World today that why the United States and the West did not display the same enthusiasm and spirit in earlier Arab-Israeli conflicts or the broader Arab-Israeli conflict. He specifically referred to the Algerian-Moroccan conflict and the Egyptian-Libyan flare-up as well as Israel's occupation of Arab territories.

In an event, "a new political map will emerge as a result of the recent developments in the Gulf region," he said.

In reply to a question, Hawatmeh, who is closely linked with Moscow, gave a very positive assessment of the Soviet position on the Gulf-crisis. He said while U.S. President George Bush, who met Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev in Helsinki, Finland, in the first week of this month, had "left all options, including the military option," the Soviet leader had "ruled out a military option" to resolve the problem.

support for the Iraqi people and leadership and the Arab masses in their struggle, including armed struggle, against imperialist aggression on the Arab and Islamic nations."

The conference is the first such gathering anywhere in the Arab World since Iraq's takeover of Kuwait on Aug. 2. Most of the participants come from the nine countries that oppose foreign intervention in the Gulf.

## Out with the Americans, in with a new Arab order

The following article by Mohammed Hassanein Heikal was published in The Times of London Sept. 12. Heikal formerly served as the editor of the Egyptian Al-Ahram and is the author of many works on Arab politics.

THE invasion of Kuwait has been presented in the West as if a madman had awoken from a dream and invaded a neighbouring country. That is not exactly true; the picture is more complicated.

I do not condone the invasion. It was wrong and Iraq must withdraw; it has also deepened the divisions within the Arab World. But the West has failed to understand that its response aggravated the situation, providing a focus for a much wider Arab sense of anger and humiliation.

The response amounts to an attempted American solution with an Arab cover, consisting of a few thousand troops from Egypt, Morocco and Syria. This will not succeed. Only an Arab solution can "meet the psychology of the Arab mind. I shall suggest such a solution; but first let me set it in context.

The borders of the Gulf countries sprang from the British genius for creating situations which would provide reasons to keep returning. We in the Arab World accepted those borders as a means to bring the imperial era to an end. We assumed that they would evolve and change as our dream of an Arab Nation became a reality, much as Europe is evolving as it gains a new identity.

There were always divisions which stood in the way of our hopes: tensions between desert people and city people, between conservative and constitutional elements, between reactionary and progressive forces.

In the first few days after the invasion of Kuwait an Arab solution seemed possible: had it been pursued with sincerity and persistence it might have succeeded. As weak as we may be, any Arab solution would have been preferable to an American one.

The Americans' use of

threats has made matters worse. It united behind Saddam Hussein many of those that the Arab World has opposed him. The fact that the U.S. forces are in Saudi Arabia, and therefore close to Mecca and Medina, is an affront to the deepest Islamic feelings. In this situation symbols are more explosive than bombs.

It is unimaginable that President Saddam Hussein would retreat in the face of an American threat, though he might have done so if the forces facing him had been entirely from Arab nations. I fear that the American tactics may make irrational behaviour more likely. Let us remember that people sometimes welcome martyrdom as an act of defiance.

A new world order is emerging, but Arabs are at risk of being excluded. As West and East have come together, the fossilisation of Arab authority has become worse while the extravagance of certain individuals has fuelled mass resentment.

I have never seen the Arab World so divided as it is now. There is much emotion and little clarity. If you ask an ordinary Arab where he stands you will never receive a clear answer, but his unease will be obvious.

There is a general state of despair, anger and humiliation. We Arabs had our hopes; but we were badly let down. The old order does not want to die and the future is refusing to be born. It is a bewildering aggiornamento.

In the first few days after the invasion of Kuwait an Arab solution seemed possible: had it been pursued with sincerity and persistence it might have succeeded. As weak as we may be, any Arab solution would have been preferable to an American one.

What should be done now?

The Helsinki summit has given a breathing space which the Arabs should use. Washington will continue preparing for war while Moscow seeks peace. The Soviet Union should not be disregarded in this equation: the idea that it would

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# A history of differences put aside to map out unity

By Jamis K. Andoni  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

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The formation of JANDA, was then hailed by activists as a major turning point in the history of the popular political movement in Jordan particularly that the leftists and the nationalists had emerged fragmented after three decades of suppression of political pluralism in the Kingdom.

The main objectives of JANDA, according to its written political programme, are to promote the democratisation process in Jordan, contribute to the construction of a productive economy, combatting corruption and the support of the Palestinian people's struggle for nationhood.

The formation of the JANDA, known as the "coalition," was viewed by political observers as a major breakthrough in the history of the Jordanian political movement.

For except, for a short period in the fifties, when leftists, and pan-Arab nationalists and all forces opposed to Jordanian alliances with the West, worked in unity, the Jordanian popular organised movement remained fragmented.

Between 1967-1971, the dominance of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) groups in the country, served — for a short period — as catalyst for the Jordanian left and the pan-Arab nationalists.

**'Although many of the founding members of JANDA, had spent long years in prison for opposing Jordan's official policies, in the last year they have publicly declared commitment to the Jordanian constitution.'**

But as many Jordanian and Palestinian political activists now concede, the dominance of the PLO groups did not help in laying the basis for a unified Jordanian popular movement which became very dependent on the Palestinian commando groups.

The government's crackdown on political parties in 1957 and the tragic 1970 military showdown between the Jordanian government and PLO forces, had shattered the Jordanian organised political movement in the country, Jordanian political activists feel.

In the seventies and the early eighties many leading political activists tried to revive the idea of forming a "national front" involving the leading leftist and nationalist trends in the country, yet to no avail.

Many reasons are cited by Jordanian political activists for the failure of the attempts for reviving a strong organised popular movement and coalitions. By them mainly stress the prevalence of martial law — which remained in effect for 23 years until it was suspended early this year — the strong security grip and surveillance of political activists as well as the fact that most Jordanian political parties have either been divided or weakened.

A major factor, according to political activists, which impeded the formation of a broad political coalition was the ambiguity of the Palestinian-Jordanian relationship and the frequent strain between the Jordanian and the PLO in the seventies and the eighties.

In the post 1970 period, except for the Jordanian Communist Party (JCP), the only existing organised movements in Jordan, were practically extensions of the Palestinian commando groups.

The differences between the government and the PLO and the prevailing mutual suspicions, made it extremely difficult,

according to Jordanian political activists, to form a coalition which would not come across as just another extension of the PLO.

In the other hand, PLO officials conceded that in the early eighties, they were not ready to encourage any steps which could be interpreted as "an intervention in the internal Jordanian affairs."

But in 1989 and 1990, two major turning points took place which dramatically altered the political life in the country. In July 1988, His Majesty King Hussein relinquished the responsibility of the Israeli-occupied West Bank to the PLO. The historic step, initially complicated the situation because of the ambiguity behind the government's practical measures which accompanied disengagement, but it eventually opened the way for the revival of a coordinated and organised popular political movement.

In practical terms the Jordanian disengagement from the West Bank removed much of the mutual suspicions and perceived competition between Jordan and the PLO, according to political analysts. Furthermore, Palestinian groups immediately started considering a disengagement of a different level.

In July 1990 the Jordanian wing of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) transformed itself into a separate and independent Jordanian party. Although the emerging Jordan People Democratic Party (JPDP) still maintains some links with the DFLP, its declared programme gives priority to Jordan, without abandoning its support for the Palestinian nationalist liberation struggle.

coalition based on the common denominators among all trends.

In its programme JANDA, or the coalition, opposed the International Monetary Fund (IMF) restructuring programme of the Jordanian economy, and all American proposals for a settlement of the Israeli-Arab conflict which fall short of recognising the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and statehood.

At an early stage of the deliberations, prior to the elections, representatives of the Brotherhood, attended some of the meetings and were even expected to join the coalition. But reported differences over the coalition's support for the PLO peace strategy, which calls for the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip alongside Israel, prompted the Brotherhood to withdraw. A Brotherhood official had said then that his movement would not settle for anything less than a pledge to liberate all of Palestine.

Leftist officials, had then countered that the Brotherhood was using the issue as a pretext

**'The success or failure of the pan-Arab conference, according to political analysis, is not only crucial to testing the unity of the Arab population movement in general but also to the role of JANDA as the coalition of secular and nationalist trends in Jordan.'**

for not joining a coalition with the leftists and the nationalists.

Interestingly enough the final programme does not state an explicit endorsement of a two state solution. Instead it refers to the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to establish their independent state on "all the Palestinian land."

The rather ambiguous wording is believed to reflect internal opposition by some pan-Arab nationalist elements against the idea of a two state solution.

Although many of the founding members of JANDA, had spent long years in prison for opposing Jordan's official policies, in the last year they have publicly declared commitment to the Jordanian constitution. Earlier this year the leadership of both the JCP and the JPDP were received by King Hussein while officials from the organisation of the PFLP in

people and although the Muslim Brotherhood not a sponsor, it took an active part in the huge demonstration.

Two weeks ago JANDA also sponsored another rally, held at the Roman Amphitheatre in down-town Amman, dedicated to the Palestinian intifada and in solidarity with Iraq.

The major event sponsored by JANDA has been the pan-Arab conference, to be held today, which aims according to the movement's officials at uniting the popular Arab movement against the U.S.-led military intervention in the Gulf.

The success or failure of the pan-Arab conference, according to political analysts, is not only crucial to testing the unity of the Arab popular movement in general but also to the role of JANDA as the coalition of secular and nationalist trends in Jordan.

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# Olympic revenue targeted at \$1.84b

Fight against drugs goes on but at lower key

TOKYO (Agencies) — The International Olympic Committee (IOC), which was virtually broke 10 years ago, expects to bring in \$1.84 billion in revenue for the period 1989-92, it said Friday.

The Olympic governing body was believed to be down to its last \$100,000 when Juan Antonio Samaranch took over as IOC president in 1980.

But a bonanza from the sale of television rights, particularly in the United States, and the success of its worldwide programme to market the five-ring Olympic symbol has left the IOC sitting on a gold mine.

Information Director Michele Verdier told a news conference that half the targeted figure would come from the sale of television rights, with the rest of the revenue coming from marketing, sponsorship and other sources.

Verdier also announced that, with political changes in central and Eastern Europe, the IOC would conduct a seminar in Budapest on Nov. 7-9 to instruct local National Olympic Commit-

tees (NOCs) in fundraising techniques.

"By adding more sports we put tremendous pressures on the organising committees," Verdier said.

"We have a responsibility to the organisers as well as the athletes. We have to find a way for everyone to be able to hold the Olympic Games," she added.

She added that the IOC might introduce strict controls to eliminate sports with insufficient popular appeal.

A total of \$48 million is to be donated to NOCs to facilitate preparation and participation in the 1992 games.

Entries for the 1992 Barcelona games have already been restricted to 10,000 athletes and 5,000 officials but the Olympic authorities are considering further restrictions from the year 2000.

The number of sports in the summer games has risen from eight at the first modern Olympics in 1896 to 25 in Barcelona and the IOC is concerned that a significant further increase could

put excessive strain on the organisers.

"Although few IOC members were giving away any secrets, most city delegates felt the majority had already made up their minds which way to vote and that further serious lobbying could be counter-productive."

But there were still few clues to the outcome of Tuesday's ballot. "Whatever happens Tuesday will be a surprise," American IOC member Anita DeFrantz said.

Two years after catching its biggest cheat, the International Olympic Committee keeps looking for ways to rid sports of drugs.

The latest phase of the battle is much more low key than it was in Seoul in the autumn of 1988, when Ben Johnson tested positive for anabolic steroids and doping was everyone's buzzword.

But officials say the fight is no less intense, and that they don't plan to stop until it is won.

"It's not a case of the wheels falling off. Other things have come along to get attention," said Anita DeFrantz, an IOC member from the United States and a long-time campaigner against

drugs.

At its last session a year ago, the IOC ordered a study of tougher sanctions against drug use with the focus on rule-breaking athletes and their coaches, trainers, and physicians.

Presently, the IOC is limited to expelling drug users from the games when they test positive and honouring the eligibility rules of that athlete's international federation. This means, for example, that Johns or may be able to race for the 100-metre gold medal in Barcelona, in 1992. His two-year suspension is by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) expires later this month.

The IOC's study was prompted by a proposal from DeFrantz to impose a life ban from the Olympics on athletes found using drugs at the games.

She said she hoped to hear some word of progress on the study at this year's session, which opens Sunday.

DeFrantz said the committee was working hard to get uniform anti-doping measures adopted by all sports and backing them up with stiffer penalties.

## Faroe Islands celebrate stunning upset

TORSHAVN, Faroe Islands (AP) — Almost all the 46,000 people in this North Atlantic archipelago were on the streets Thursday as the national soccer team returned after beating Austria 1-0 in its first international game.

People rushed into the streets Wednesday night even as a storm hit the capital of 15,000 people. Bands struck up Thursday when the team returned to Torshavn after the European Championship qualifying game at Lanskrona, Sweden.

In Vienna, the leading Austrian paper, *Kronen Zeitung*, ran a banner frontpage headline: "0-1 vs. Island team. Our soccer players — the laughing stock of Europe." Austria coach Josef Hicklberger, who recently signed a 3½-year contract extension, said he probably would resign.

The Faroes, a self-governing possession of Denmark located about 250 miles north of Scotland, were given permission earlier this year to field international soccer teams. Since all the stadiums have artificial turf and UEFA and FIFA-sanctioned games must be played on natural grass, UEFA selected Sweden as the site for the Faroe Islands' "home" games in the European championship.

Pall Gudlaugsson, the Icelandic-born coach of the team, could hardly believe his team won. The upset ranked with the United States' 1-0 victory over England in 1950, North Korea's defeat of Italy in the 1966 World Cup and Cameroon's upset of Argentina in this year's World Cup opener.

"These are boys who live on barren islands in the middle of the Atlantic," Gudlaugsson said. "They're used to hard work and they have to fight for their living. That approach led us to victory tonight."

Torkil Nielsen, a wood trader, scored in the 62nd minute, just after power was restored to the Faroes after a six-minute outage.

The goalkeeper for the Faroes' all-amateur side is Jens Martin Knudsen, a 23-year-old truck driver who plays with a white, pom-pom hat. His oldest player is Abraham Hanson, a 31-year-old fish worker.

The victory sent shockwaves through the European soccer community.

"It can't be true. I'm speechless," Denmark player Kent Nielsen said in Birmingham, England. "It can't be true. I'm speechless."

Hicklberger, Austria's coach since 1988, had trouble coming up with words.

"A longer future with the team is hardly thinkable for me," he said following a telephone conversation with Austrian Soccer Federation President Beppo Mauhart. "I would like to step down at once."

Hicklberger, whose team beat the United States 2-1 at the World Cup despite playing the second half a man short, said he wanted to speak to Mauhart in person before officially resigning.

The Faroes next play their colonial rulers on Oct. 10.

"The Faroese victory suits us just fine," Nielsen said. "Now we've been warned, and we can't expect just to be able to wade through the Faroese defence in Copenhagen on Oct. 10."

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 15, 1990  
By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You have reached the mid-point of an eventful month and are now in position to make a real onslaught toward gaining your long range objectives by pressing for answers to serious questions.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Sit down with a business person and talk out what you can best do in order to improve the formulas and methods that you use to gain a practical prosperity.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) It's the day for you to iron out differences with persons who are equally difficult to argue at decisions as yourself so compromise is necessary.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) A good work day plunges into every single factor necessary to upgrade any activities in which you are engaged in at this time.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You can now harmonize the pleasures and entertainments in which you wish to engage with the actual cost involved in the enjoyment of them.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) The day for you to take a good long scrutinizing look at your home conditions and to make up your mind just what you can do to make them more as you desire.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Let every person with whom you have any practical dealings, far and near, be more aware of how you feel the relationship can be more worthwhile.

give you a different slant how to make more prosperous your basic outlets.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Sit down with a business person and talk out what you can best do in order to improve the formulas and methods that you use to gain a practical prosperity.

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## THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



## JUMBLE

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME  
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Locks like he's hit everyone here today

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WHAT IT TAKES  
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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

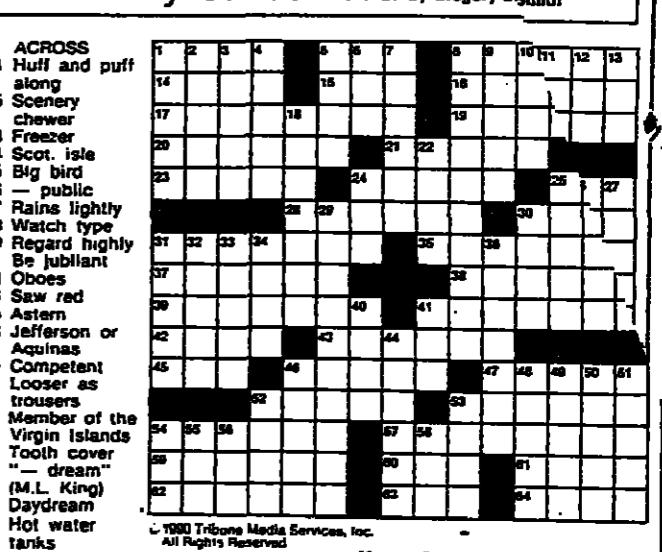
Answer: A **DOOR** OF **DOORS**

Answers tomorrow

Yesterday's **Jumble: GULE FLANK NIBBLE BUTLER**

Answer: After the mousse pot melted, she continued to do this from time to time — RUB IT IN

## THE Daily Crossword



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

SEINI CEDAR INAKA  
ALIAN AXIGONE HATO  
HAIT PINTA SUMO  
UNICEF ESTIMATION

HUSTY SIR  
DOLPHIN SEASIDE

YARDAGE EAT

DRIFTING ELEGANT

TABLE SCRAMBLED

ALPHABET RUN

MORE TANGY

DEC. PERIOD

BEHIND SUPERIOR

SUPERIOR 25

SUNDAY PAPER

DAIRY FIELD STERILE

GDA ASIA

FRAMING TRADE INGIE

ALPS SPICES UNICA

PEST REFRESHES HUIC

DIAPHANOUS MATERIAL

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NDY MARX

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+ A J 5

+ A 5

**EAST**

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+ 9 4

+ 9 10 5 3

+ K Q 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3

+ Q J 9 6 4 3 2 + 10

**SOUTH**

# Economy

JORDAN TIMES, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1990 7

## Economists question Japan's complacency on oil supplies

TOKYO (R) — The Japanese government maybe too complacent in its statement to the public about the Gulf crisis and its impact on Japan's oil supplies, private economists say.

Government officials have repeatedly said Japan will be able to weather the Gulf crisis because it has ample reserves and its dependence on oil has decreased since the oil shocks of the 1970s.

Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) officials, who draw up Japan's oil policies, say they do not foresee serious disruptions of shipments from the Gulf.

"Saudi Arabian export terminals are located away from Iraq and Kuwait. Even if a war breaks out, loading from Saudi Arabia may only be delayed and not totally stopped," a MITI official said.

Saudi Arabia is the only reliable producer with huge surplus capacity and exports from the kingdom are vital to fill the vacuum left by Iraq and Kuwait, oil industry sources said.

The world's second largest oil consumer, Japan relies for almost all its oil needs on imports, 70 per cent of which have been coming

from the Middle East.

A war could cause a major disruption in shipments, especially if oil facilities in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) were damaged, private economists said.

The Institute of Energy Economics, for example, estimates that a general war in the Gulf would send oil prices, now between \$25 and \$30 a barrel, to well above \$40.

"Government officials think there's no use worrying about it. Japan has no effective options when oil shipments are physically halted from the Middle East," said Tsutomu Toichi, chief economist at the institute.

"The government is avoiding debate on the worst case," said Toru Tachibana, chief economist at the Japanese Institute of Middle Eastern Economies, another private body.

The government wants to avoid alarming the public, but overly optimistic statements now could damage its credibility and reduce its ability to set economic policy if the Gulf crisis does escalate, Tachibana said.

MITI should impose energy conservation measures on both

households and industry, he said. The government has not announced a concrete conservation programme.

MITI officials said they were satisfied industries had already streamlined their operations and their plants were fuel-efficient. The ministry has been encouraging Japanese consumers to enjoy a more affluent lifestyle and is hesitant to reverse its course, the officials said.

MITI is hiding from the public that Japan's real problem with oil procurement at present is not crude oil but supplies of refined products, energy experts said.

The nation's refineries are running near full capacity, while imports of middle distillates — jet fuel, kerosene and gas oil — under long-term contracts with Saudi Arabia and the UAE are declining because those countries are supplying cargoes to military forces in the Gulf, they said.

"The dilemma for Japan is that it can buy additional spot oil and product cargoes to fill the gap if it pays high premiums, but that will draw harsh criticism from fellow Asian nations that cannot afford those premium barrels," Toichi said.

MITI should impose energy conservation measures on both

## Portugal sees little effect from higher oil prices

LISBON (Agencies) — The Portuguese government forecast Thursday that the oil price rise caused by the Gulf crisis would have only a marginal effect on the economy and would not stop growth.

Finance Minister Miguel Beloza told a news conference the cabinet had adopted a four-point strategy to cope with the aftermath of Iraq's takeover of Kuwait.

It would maintain tight budgetary and monetary policies, pass on the effects of higher oil prices to the domestic economy and not allow these to create wage inflation.

This policy, together with good reserves, a high growth rate and employment rate, would enable Portugal to avoid the mistakes of past oil price shocks, he said.

Meanwhile, the government announced Thursday it is preparing to sell off the state electricity company and a leading paper pulp producer as part of a major privatisation programme.

Up coming privatisations include five more banks, five insurance companies, a second beer maker, and a leading cement manufacturer.

## Israel approves austerity plan to absorb immigrants

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's cabinet Thursday unanimously adopted a major economic austerity plan geared to spur growth at a time when Israel is facing an influx of hundreds of thousands of Soviet immigrants.

The plan relies on tax increases to generate revenue to fund the absorption of the million Soviet newcomers expected to arrive within the decade.

Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai presented his plan aimed at turning Israel's socialist-style economic system into a more capitalist one during a marathon 10-hour cabinet meeting.

It would maintain tight budgetary and monetary policies, pass on the effects of higher oil prices to the domestic economy and not allow these to create wage inflation.

Modai said his plan would develop the faltering economy. "What we are trying to do is remove taxes or burdens which are stopping growth and transfer them to things which do not affect growth," he said at a press conference.

This plan will be very hard for the lower classes... it will be tough to have to pay more for basics like fruits and vegetables and to earn less money," Luzon added.

parliament plenum, where it is expected to meet opposition from left-wing parties.

One measure likely to meet stiff resistance in parliament is a proposal to modify minimum wage laws as an incentive to employers to create more jobs.

Employers would not have to pay immigrants the minimum wage, about \$475 a month, for their first half year of employment, under the new plan.

Ora Namir, a legislative for the left-of-centre Labour Party that runs the "Histadrut" labour union vowed she and her party would "launch a tremendous struggle," against this proposal.

Rafi Luzon, a leader of a protest movement born this summer when immigration set off a spiralling housing shortage also opposed the plan.

This plan will be very hard for the lower classes... it will be tough to have to pay more for basics like fruits and vegetables and to earn less money," Luzon added.

speaking on the radio.

Former Finance Minister Shimon Peres said the plan would not help the immigration problems.

"I don't see a plan for the absorption of 250,000 immigrants nor a plan for stabilising the economy," said Peres, leader of the opposition Labour Party.

The government made no decisions about its own budget, about its policy on salaries or war on inflation. I can't see this being carried out," he added on Israeli television.

Already the nearly 90,000 Soviet immigrants who have arrived this year face severe housing and job shortages.

Officials estimate it will cost \$20 to \$30 billion to provide housing and jobs for the Soviets over the next two years.

Israel is also seeking additional money from Jewish fundraisers overseas and has requested a \$400 million loan guarantee from the United States.

## U.S. Congress wants to fill oil reserves to one billion barrels

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. Senate and House of Representatives Thursday passed a bill to boost the U.S. emergency oil reserve to one billion barrels but the White House said it sees little need for the extra safety net despite the Gulf crisis.

The bill now goes to President George Bush, who must sign the measure before it becomes law.

U.S. Senate Energy Committee Chairman Bennett Johnston, a Democrat, said the bill authorizes the increase in the U.S. strategic petroleum reserve from

the current cap of 750 million barrels and allows the government to lease crude oil from producers to help fill the reserve.

The bill would also allow continued filling of the reserve through 1994. The current authority expires Saturday.

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Tender's No. Title Fees JD

15/90 Passenger Bus 10,000

Interested bidders are invited to collect tender's documents from Procurement Division at the Projects Directorate/Ministry of Education starting September 12th, 1990 against the payment of the above fees.

Closing date will be 10:00 a.m. of November 11th, 1990.

Head of Special Tenders Committee

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